

Appl. No. 09/786,080  
Atty. Docket No. CM1905Q  
Amtd. dated 11 June 2003  
Reply to Office Action of January 14, 2003  
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Previously amended) A nonwoven web, wherein said web comprises:

a first zone and at least one second zone, said first zone and said second zone having a bonded area, the bonded area of said second zone being greater than the bonded area of said first zone, said first zone having an effective open area of at least about 10 percent and a plurality of apertures, wherein each of said apertures having an effective size of at least 0.2 square millimeters.

Claim 2. (Original) The web of Claim 1 wherein said first zone comprises a central zone and said second zone comprises an outer zone.

Claim 3. (Original) The web of Claim 2 wherein said web comprises a pair of outer zones.

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Claim 4. (Previously amended) The web of either Claim 2 wherein said central zone has an effective open area of at least about 15 percent.

Claim 5. (Currently amended) The web according to Claim 2 wherein said central zone has a plurality of apertures, wherein each of said apertures having ~~an effective~~ a size of at least 1.0 square millimeter.

Claim 6. (Previously amended) The web according to Claim 2 wherein said central zone has a bonded area of less than 12%.

Claim 7. (Previously amended) The web according to Claim 2 wherein said central zone has a bonded area from 5% to 12%.

Claim 8. (Previously amended) The web according to Claim 2 wherein said outer zones have a bonded area of greater than 15%.

Claim 9. (Previously amended) The web according to Claim 2 wherein said outer zones have a bonded area from 15% to 25%.

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Claim 10. (Previously amended) A disposable absorbent article comprising a liquid pervious topsheet comprising the web according to Claim 1.

Claim 11. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of claim 10 further comprising a backsheet joined to said topsheet, and an absorbent core positioned between said topsheet and said backsheet.

Claim 12. (Currently amended) A method of forming a bonded nonwoven web, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) bonding the web in a first or central zone with a bonded area;
- b) bonding the web in at least one second or outer zone with a bonded area greater than the bonded area of the central zone;
- c) aperturing the central zone such that the central zone has a plurality of apertures; ~~wherein each of said apertures having an effective size of at least 0.2 square millimeters.~~

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Claim 13. (Original) The method of Claim 12 wherein said central zone has an effective open area of at least about 10 percent.

Claim 14. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 12 wherein said apertures have an effective size of at least ~~1.0~~ 0.2 square millimeter.

Claim 15. (Previously amended) The method of Claim 12 wherein said central zone has a bonded area of less than 12%.

Claim 16. (Previously amended) The method of Claim 12 wherein said outer zones have a bonded area of greater than 15%.

Claim 17. (Previously amended) The method of Claim 12 wherein said web comprises a pair of outer zones.